08

OSSAN IDOL

ICHIKA KINO & MOCHIKO MOCHIDA

TOKYOPOP®

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OSSAN IDOL 08

MANGA ◆ ICHIKA KINO
ORIGINAL STORY ◆
MOCHIKO MOCHIDA
CHARACTER DESIGN ◆
MIZUKI SAKAKIBARA

STORY

MIROKU, A 270 LB UNEMPLOYED SHUT-IN, WAS SPURRED ON BY THE POPULARITY OF HIS "LET'S TRY DANCING" VIDEO, JOINED A GYM, GOT IN SHAPE, AND TRANSFORMED INTO A MIDDLE-AGED HUNK IN NO TIME! ALONG WITH YOICHI AND SHIJU, HE CAUGHT THE EYE OF A FAMOUS PRODUCER, MR. LAVENDER, AND THE THREE MEN SUCCESSFULLY DEBUTED AS MIYOSHI! MIYOSHI IS SLOWLY BUT STEADILY LEVELING UP AS A GROUP. WHAT WILL THEIR NEXT GIG BE?!

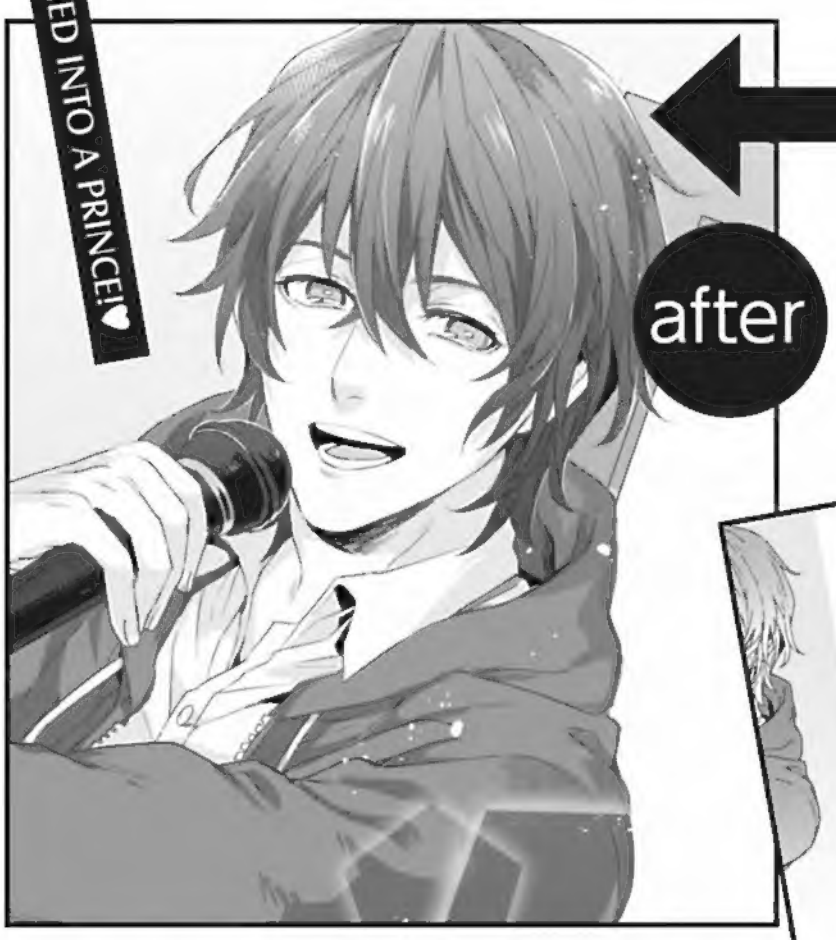
CHARACTERS

MIROKU (36)

UNEMPLOYED • SHUT-IN • VIRGIN
INTERNET ADDICT • WEIGHS 270 LBS • GIVES OFF PHEROMONES UNCONSCIOUSLY • LIKES FUMI

HE PRESSED "UPLOAD" BY MISTAKE AND HIS "LET'S DANCE" VIDEO WENT VIRAL!

MIROKU OSAKI



FUMI

FUMI KISARAGI

YOICHI'S BUBBLY NIECE WHO WORKS AT HIS OFFICE. SHE ALWAYS PUTS HER ALL INTO HER WORK.

FUMI'S HERO, THE MAN WHO SAVED HER FROM A TROUBLESOME CUSTOMER, WAS ACTUALLY MIROKU BACK WHEN HE WAS CHUBBY!

YOICHI (41)

YOICHI KISARAGI

HE WAS OVER 300 LBS, BUT NOW YOICHI IS THE CEO OF A SMALL ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY. HE AND MIROKU MET AT THE GYM. USED TO BE AN IDOL FOR THE SHINEEZ TALENT AGENCY.

SHIJU (40)

SHIJU ONOHARA

A FORMER DANCER AND HOST, NOW UNEMPLOYED AND LEADING A LIFE ON THE EDGE. HE WAS THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED THAT MIROKU TAKE PART IN THE DANCE COMPETITION, AND HE USED TO BELONG TO A LEGENDARY DANCE TEAM.

NINA OSAKI

MIROKU'S LITTLE SISTER AND AN ASSISTANT HAIRSTYLIST. SHE GOT CLOSE TO SHIJU AFTER GIVING HIM VOICE LESSONS.

KAMO LAVENDER

PRODUCER EXTRAORDINAIRE OF NATIONALLY TREASURED IDOL GROUPS SUCH AS UGUISUDANI SEVEN.

VICE-PRESIDENT (VP)

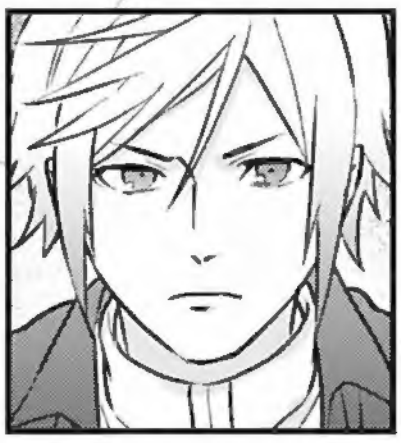
THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE MAJOR IDOL TALENT AGENCY SHINEEZ. HE VIEWS MIYOSHI AS AN ENEMY.

MIHACHI OSAKI

MIROKU'S OLDER SISTER WHO WAS YOICHI'S BIGGEST FAN IN HIS IDOL DAYS AND LOVES HIM EVEN NOW.

TENKA

SUPER POPULAR IDOLS IN THEIR TEENS THAT BELONG TO SHINEEZ, A MAJOR TALENT AGENCY.



KIRA

THE ULTIMATE PRINCE OF THE IDOL INDUSTRY. HE USED TO VIEW MIROKU AS AN ENEMY, BUT...?

ROU

HE LOOKS CUTE BUT IS SURPRISINGLY LEVELHEADED.

ZOU

DESPITE HIS COOL AND COLLECTED AURA, HE'S ACTUALLY AN IDIOT.

OSSAN IDOL

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Chapter 44

KER-CHAK

GOOD MORNI...!

HUH?

WHAT'S WRONG?

GLOOM

THE TITLE AND SALES DATE FOR YOUR PHOTOBOOK...

HAVE BEEN DECIDED!

SUMMER CEREZA! WON'T YOU TASTE OUR FRUITS?

SUMMER CEREZA! WON'T YOU TASTE OUR FRUITS?

FRESH FRUITS!

PROBABLY BECAUSE CHERRIES ARE SUMMER FRUITS.

WHY DID THEY HAVE TO PICK "CEREZA"?

WE'VE ALSO DECIDED ON A DATE FOR AN EXCLUSIVE PHOTOBOOK EVENT!

WHAT MAKES IT EXCLUSIVE?

AGE-WISE, WE'RE MORE LIKE DRIED PERSIMMONS...

CUT IT OUT!

...

SO WE'D GET TO INTERACT WITH OUR FANS, HUH?

A SIGNED COPY FROM THE IDOLS THEM-SELVES!

FAN

IDOL

IT'S AN EVENT WHERE FANS WHO BUY THE PHOTOBOOK HAVE A CHANCE TO DIRECTLY RECEIVE...

FOR A PHOTOBOOK FULL OF OLD MEN?

SUMMER CEREZA! WON'T YOU TASTE OUR FRUITS?

DO YOU THINK... THEY'D ACTUALLY COME?

GLOOOOM

...

I PROMISE!

MIYOSHI IS POPULAR, SO IT'LL BE FINE!

BA-BAM

SHINING AURA

HE'S SO EASILY CONVINCED.

IF FUMI SAYS SO, THEN IT'LL BE FINE.

HAPPY

THE DAY OF THE EVENT

GREEN ROOM

MIROKU.

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

FUMI...!

LOVESTRUCK きゅんっ

IT'LL BE OKAY!

CLENCH

DON'T ACT LOVEY-DOVEY IN FRONT OF US!

RUUUUUUMBLE

...OKAY.

GLUM

NONE OF THE FANS ARE INSIDE YET, SO YOU CAN JUST ACT NORMALLY.

CHATTER
おい

CHATTER
おい

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

BUT SOME FANS STILL WANT TO LINE UP AND WAIT RIGHT OUTSIDE THE VENUE.

WE PASSED OUT NUMBERED TICKETS...

I'M SO GRATEFUL FOR THEM.

THEY REALLY LOVE US, HUH?

I NEED TO WORK HARDER FOR THEIR SAKES.

BY THE WAY...

WHAT'S THIS "FLIRTY ♡ HOT NIGHT WITH MIYOSHI" DVD THAT COMES AS A PRE-ORDER BONUS?

TO BE SPENDING TIME WITH OUR GIRLFRIENDS AT THE RESORT.

APPARENTLY, THEY HAVE VIDEOS FROM BACK WHEN WE PRETENDED...

OH, THAT...?

WAIT, EVEN THE SCENE WHEN FUMI AND I MADE LOVE?!

WON'T IT, FUMI?

I'LL BE EMBARRASSING TO HAVE EVERYONE SEE THAT...

SQUEEZE

?!

WE COULD NEVER SHOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

WATCH YOUR PHRASING!

AND TODAY IS THE DAY THE PHOTOBOOK GOES ON SALE!

I WAS MIRACULOUSLY ABLE TO GET A NUMBERED ENTRY TICKET EVEN THOUGH THE CHANCES OF GETTING ONE WERE SO LOW!

FAN
GIRL A (17)

THE CONCEPT BEHIND IT IS "YOU'LL BE FINE EVEN IF YOU GET A NOSEBLEED."

THE PRINCE'S BLACK TOWEL

I WAS EVEN ABLE TO GET PRINCE MIROKU'S BLACK TOWEL, WHICH I WANTED SO BADLY!

I'M SO GRATEFUL FOR THE THOUGHTFUL CONSIDERATION PUT INTO IT.

THEY MADE WITH MMWM!

I DEFINITELY NEED TO BUY THE COLLABORATION T-SHIRT...

I WONDER WHY THERE ARE THREE BOOKLETS.

AND THE MOST IMPORTANT PART IS THE PHOTOBOOK! THERE'S A REGULAR VERSION AND A DELUXE VERSION THAT COMES WITH THREE BOOKLETS.

DELUXE VERSION

WHAT?!

THAT'S BECAUSE THE BOOKLETS WERE ORIGINALLY GOING TO BE SOLD SEPARATELY!

KAMO LAVENDER THOUGHT IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO PIT THE THREE AGAINST EACH OTHER AND SEE WHO IS MOST POPULAR.

PEEK

O-OH... IS THAT SO?

THEY DECIDED NOT TO.

BUT RIGHT BEFORE PRE-ORDERS BEGAN...

PRINCE MIROKU SAID...

WHY IS THAT?

THAT'S SO SAD...

WHY DID YOU SEPARATE THE BOOKLETS?

I WANT TO BE WITH THE OTHERS!

OH MY GOD... PRINCE MIROKU, YOU'RE SO CUTE. I ADORE YOU.

PACKAGE THEM ALL TOGETHER!

I GOT THIS INFORMATION...

I WONDER IF THIS PERSON IS PART OF MIYOSHI'S STAFF...

LOOK FOR THEM UNDER THE HASHTAG "PRECIOUSYOUNGESTMEMBER"!

#PRECIOUSYOUNG

YOU CAN FIND MERCH SA
#PRECIOUSYOUNGESTME

INFO FROM STAFF
ECIOUSYOUNGESTME

FROM A KISARAGI AGENCY STAFF MEMBER'S SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT I FOUND UNDER THE HASHTAGS "PRINCE MIROKU" AND "MIYOSHI"!

SOME FANS ARE REALLYYYY PASSIONATE.

POINT

I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU FOLLOW THEM RIGHT NOW!

FOR YOUR PURCHASE!

THANK YOU...

I'LL DEFINITELY GO TO YOUR NEXT CONCERT!

YOUR NEXT ONE WILL BE AT THE BUDOKAN, RIGHT?

THANKS.

PRINCE MIROKU, YOU REALLY DO LOOK LIKE A PRINCE!

...

I'M HAPPY TO HEAR THAT. I'LL WORK HARD!

MIROKU, YOU CAN TAKE A THIRTY-MINUTE BREAK!

WHISPER

SHIIINE

おお

GOT IT!

THANKS!

とと

AM I IMAGINING IT?

...

I WANT YOU TO HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME!

SHIJU...

PRETTY KITTEN, YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO YOUNG FOR THAT.

I CAN'T DO THAT.

PLEASE SCOLD ME!

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR NEXT CONCERT!

SALES CORNER

JUST BE GOOD AND WAIT, OKAY?

HEY...

OSSAN.

WHY BRING THAT UP NOW?

EVEN WHEN THEY'RE AT WORK.

I THINK I KNOW WHY MIROKU AND FUMI DISREGARD EACH OTHER'S PERSONAL SPACE...

PLEASE DON'T MAKE IT SOUND LIKE MY NIECE COULD SURVIVE THE EQUIVALENT OF A LETHAL WEAPON.

BUT FUMI'S TOTALLY FINE.

COME ON, JUST LOOK. MIROKU'S FANS DROP DEAD THE INSTANT HE TURNS HIS CHARM ON THEM.

LEAN

WERE YOU JUST TALKING ABOUT MAKING FUMI HAPPY FOREVER?

NO, WE WEREN'T!

WELL, SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WORK AS OUR MANAGER IF SHE WASN'T IMPERVIOUS TO HIS CHARMS.

WE NEED TO HER STAY ENERGETIC FOREVER.

OKAY!

WE'LL BE RIGHT TH-

COUGH

HACK

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

MIYOSHI, YOUR TALK SHOW WILL BE STARTING SOON.

NO.

BUT MY THROAT HAS FELT FUNNY LATELY.

DID YOU CATCH A COLD?

DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO MUCH.

I WONDER WHY...

ALL RIGHT! LET'S GET READY FOR OUR TALK SHOW.

YEAH! LET'S MAKE IT A GOOD ONE!

THANKS, FUMI.

I'LL GET SOME THROAT MEDICINE FOR YOU.

...

THAT'S THE SPIRIT, OSSAN!

MIYOSHI AUTOGRAPH EVENT

I LET SHIJU TAKE THE LEAD...

I'D DONE PHOTO SHOOTS BEFORE...

BUT NEVER LIKE THAT.

DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT.

OSSAN, I KNOW YOU'RE DOING THAT ON PURPOSE.

IN EVERY MEANING OF THE WORD.

SHIJU IS EXTREMELY EXPERI-ENCED, AFTER ALL.

LET'S SEE...

WHAT OTHER LANGUAGES CAN YOU SPEAK?

BUT YOU'RE REALLY GOOD WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

HEY, SHIJU. I THOUGHT THIS DURING THE PHOTO SHOOT...

Mais qui est cette charmante petite dame?
(WHO IS THAT CUTE GIRL?)

CLAMOR

SONO FELICE DI AVERTI INCONTRATO!
(I'M SO GLAD TO MEET YOU!)

Are you seeing anyone?

WOOOOW!

Tolong jadi pacarku.
(GO OUT WITH ME.)

THAT'S ABOUT ALL, I GUESS.

THEY WERE ALL PICK-UP LINES.

YOICHI, YOU UNDER-STOOD WHAT HE SAID?

I HAD NO CLUE.

DON'T WORRY, MIROKU. YOUR CHARM NATURALLY COMES THROUGH IN ALL OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS.

PLEASE GO EASY ON OUR FANS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!

GOOD JOB TODAY!

GREAT WORK, MIYOSHI!

CROWD

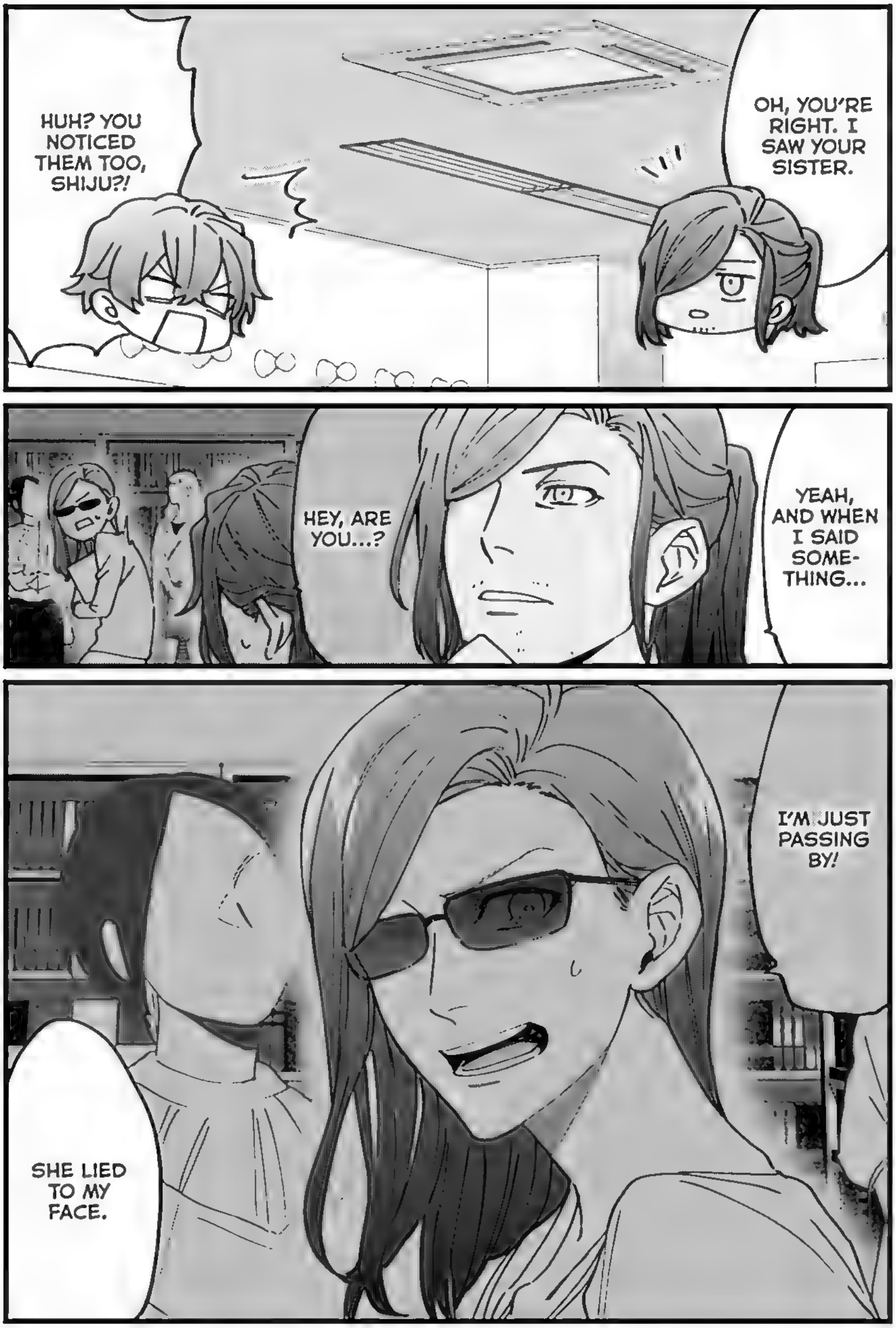
THEY WERE ALL IN DISGUISE, BUT THEY STOOD OUT BECAUSE THEY WERE ALL WEARING SUNGLASSES.

BY THE WAY, YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY WAS HERE.

WHAT?!

HOW EMBAR-RASSING.

I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE.


HUH? YOU NOTICED THEM TOO, SHIJU?!
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT. I SAW YOUR SISTER.
HEY, ARE YOU...?
YEAH, AND WHEN I SAID SOME-THING...
I'M JUST PASSING BY!
SHE LIED TO MY FACE.

SIIIIIS!

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE HAD THE GALL TO SAY THAT WHEN SHE WAS HOLDING OUR FAN MERCH AND A NUMBERED ENTRY TICKET.

I'M SORRY ABOUT THEM...

I PRETENDED NOT TO SEE THEM (EXCEPT MIHACHI).

SO I IGNORED YOUR FAMILY (EXCEPT NINA).

YOMI DID?

BY THE WAY, MY DAD SAID HE ORDERED THE PHOTO-BOOK AT HIS LOCAL BOOK-STORE SINCE HE COULDN'T MAKE IT TODAY.

HE EVEN DID A BUNCH OF TRAINING IN PREPARATION FOR COMING TO THE HANDSHAKE EVENT.

HE SAID HE MISSES YOU AND EVERYONE ELSE.

IS HE CONFUSING HANDSHAKE EVENTS WITH ARM WRESTLING TOURNAMENTS?

WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR A WHILE, AFTER ALL.

FUMI'S FATHER WILL BE THERE!

GRIT

WHY ARE YOU BLUSHING, MIROKU?

CLAMOR

HE IS...

MY IDEAL.

?!

I ALSO...

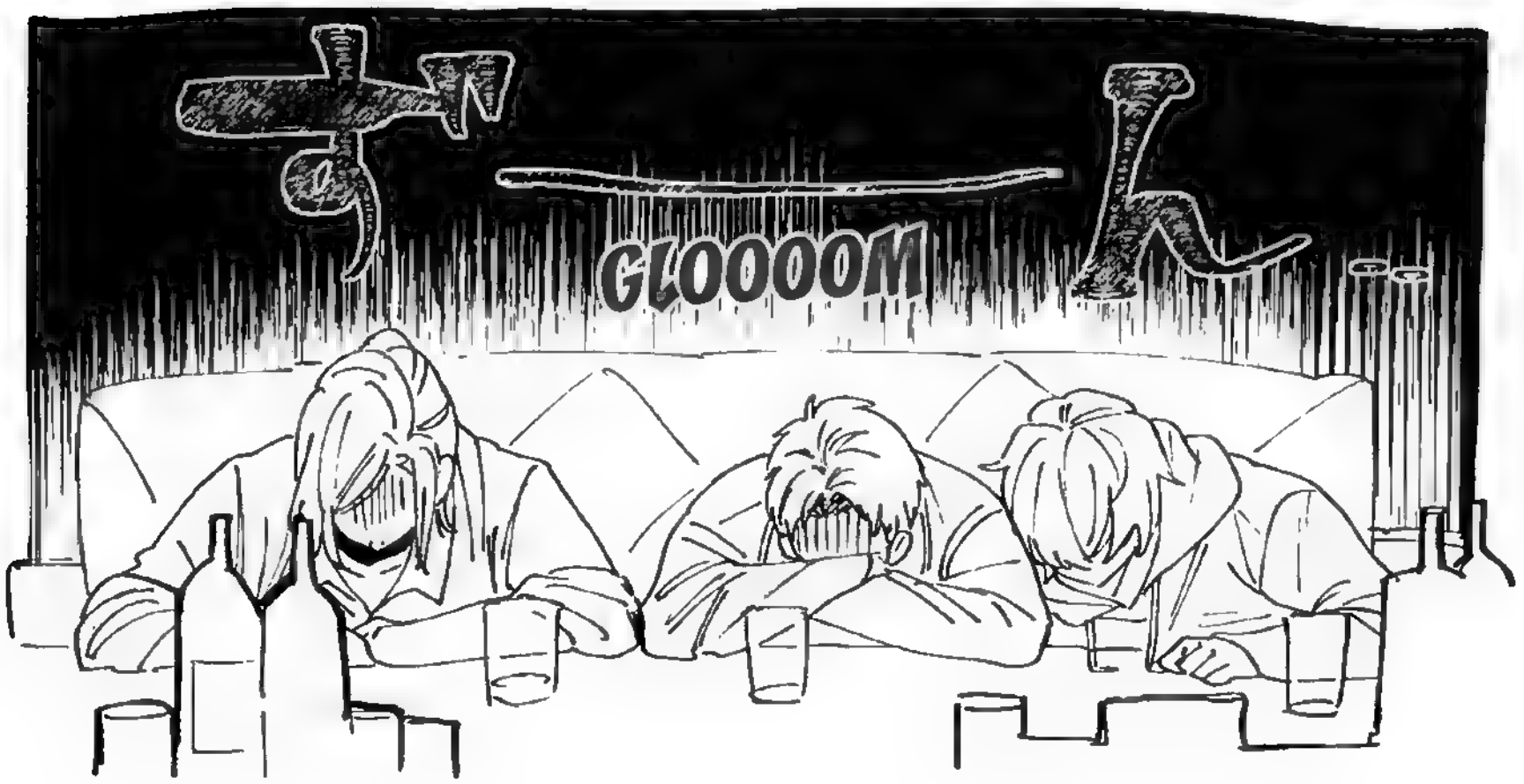
MANLY

WANT TO BE THAT MUSCULAR!

SPLASH

PLEASE DON'T!

◆ THREE OSSANS SUFFERING FROM HANGOVERS.



OSSAN
IDOL

Chapter 45

IT IS NINE-TEN IN THE MORNING AND WE ARE IN THE METRO-POLITAN AREA.

PASSION PENINSULA

EXCLUSIVE LOOK INTO KAMO LAVENDER'S WORK

PRODUCER KAMO LAVENDER APPEARS IN A DASHING OUTFIT.

PASSION PENINSULA

KAMO LAVENDER WAS A STUDENT WHEN HE(?) STARTED HIS OWN BUSINESS.

LAVENDER HAS MANY CERTIFICATIONS. AT THE TIME, HE(?) PRODUCED DESSERTS AT A RESTAURANT.

AFTER THAT, HE(?) CAME UP WITH THE MYSTERIOUS CONCEPT OF "DESSERTS AND IDOLS ARE BOTH SWEET♡."

LAVENDER DEBUTED FAMOUS FEMALE IDOL GROUPS...

PASSION PENINSULA

EXCLUSIVE LOOK INTO KAMO LAVENDER'S WORK

SUCH AS THE UGUISUDANI SEVEN AND THE YOYOGI-UEHARA FIVE, CEMENTING HIS(?) POSITION AS AN IDOL PRODUCER.

HOWEVER,
RECENTLY,
HE'S DISCOVERED
EVEN GREATER
POSSIBILITIES
IN SUCH SWEET
IDOLS.

WHAT MADE YOU THINK OF PRODUCING A GROUP OF MIDDLE-AGED IDOLS?

THEY HAVE A CERTAIN SEXINESS THAT YOUNG MEN SIMPLY CAN'T IMITATE!

MIYOSHI'S FIRST PHOTOBOOK! CURRENTLY AVAILABLE!

WON'T YOU TA
OUR FRUITS?

PASS
PENINS

EXCLUSIVE LO
KAMO LAVE

I SENSED TALENT AND POSSIBILITIES IN THEM THAT I JUST DIDN'T SEE IN OTHER IDOLS.

WERE YOU CERTAIN THAT THEY WOULD BE POPULAR FROM THE START?

PASSION PENINSULA

IDOLS AREN'T NATURALLY POPULAR. WE PRODUCERS *MAKE* THEM POPULAR.

PRODUCERS WOULDN'T BE NEED-ED IF YOU COULD EASILY TELL WHO COULD MAKE IT BIG.

THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A PROFESSIONAL IN YOUR FIELD. OF COURSE...
IF YOU WANT A GROUP TO SUCCEED, YOU MUST MAKE SURE THEY'RE DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH. ♡

KAMO LAVENDER FOCUSES ON...

RATHER THAN SIMPLY GATHERING DATA ON THE IDOLS HE(?) PRODUCES...

PASSION PENINSULA

SEEING THE IDOLS IN ACTION AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

PASSION
PENIN

ON THIS DAY, LAVENDER VISITS THE REHEARSAL SET FOR A MUSIC PROGRAM THE GROUP MIYOSHI WILL BE PERFORMING ON.

EXCLUSIVE LOOK INTO KAMO LAVENDER'S WORK

PASSION
PENINSULA

EXCL
KAM

HOWEVER, HE(?) DOESN'T MAKE A MOVE YET, SIMPLY WATCHING FROM A DISTANCE.

PASSION PENINSULA

I ONLY SHOW MYSELF TO THEM WHEN I WANT TO CHANGE THEIR RHYTHM.

THEY HAVE THEIR OWN RHYTHM. I WOULD MESS WITH THAT IF I INTERFERED.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TALK TO THEM?

PASSION PENINSULA

WOULDN'T YOU FIND IT HARD TO WORK IF YOUR BOSS SUDDENLY SHOWED UP WHEN THEY'RE USUALLY NEVER AROUND?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

PASSION PENINSULA

EXCLUSIVE LO
KAMO LAVEN

KAMO LAVENDER FINALLY MAKES A MOVE.

!

HE(?) HEADS TOWARD THE PROGRAM STAFF.

PASSION PENINSULA

EX
KA

IT SEEMS HE(?)...

IS GREETING THEM.

WHY DO YOU GREET THE STAFF?

GREETING THE STAFF ALLOWS THEM TO FORM AN IMPRESSION OF ME AS THE PRODUCER KAMO LAVENDER.

I HAVE A FAIRLY HIGH STANDING IN THIS INDUSTRY.

BUT PERHAPS IT COULD MOTIVATE THE STAFF JUST A LITTLE.

WHO KNOWS?

DOES THAT CHANGE ANYTHING?

LET'S FIND OUT WHAT THE MIYOSHI MEMBERS THINK OF THEIR THOROUGH PRODUCER.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF KAMO LAVENDER?

AND RELIABLE!

HE'S REALLY KIND...

BUT HE SEEMS TO MAKE THEM FOR OUR SAKES, SO... HE CAN BE QUITE STRICT. HA HA HA...

SOMETIMES HIS DEMANDS ARE UNREASONABLE...

DON'T ASK THAT. I'M BEING AMBIGUOUS ON PURPOSE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "CRAZY"?

I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH HIM. HE'S CRAZY.

WHAT IS THE DRIVING FORCE...

WHAT AN *ONEE* DOES IN HER TIME OFF...

IS A SECRET. ♡

BEHIND KAMO LAVENDER?

YEAH.

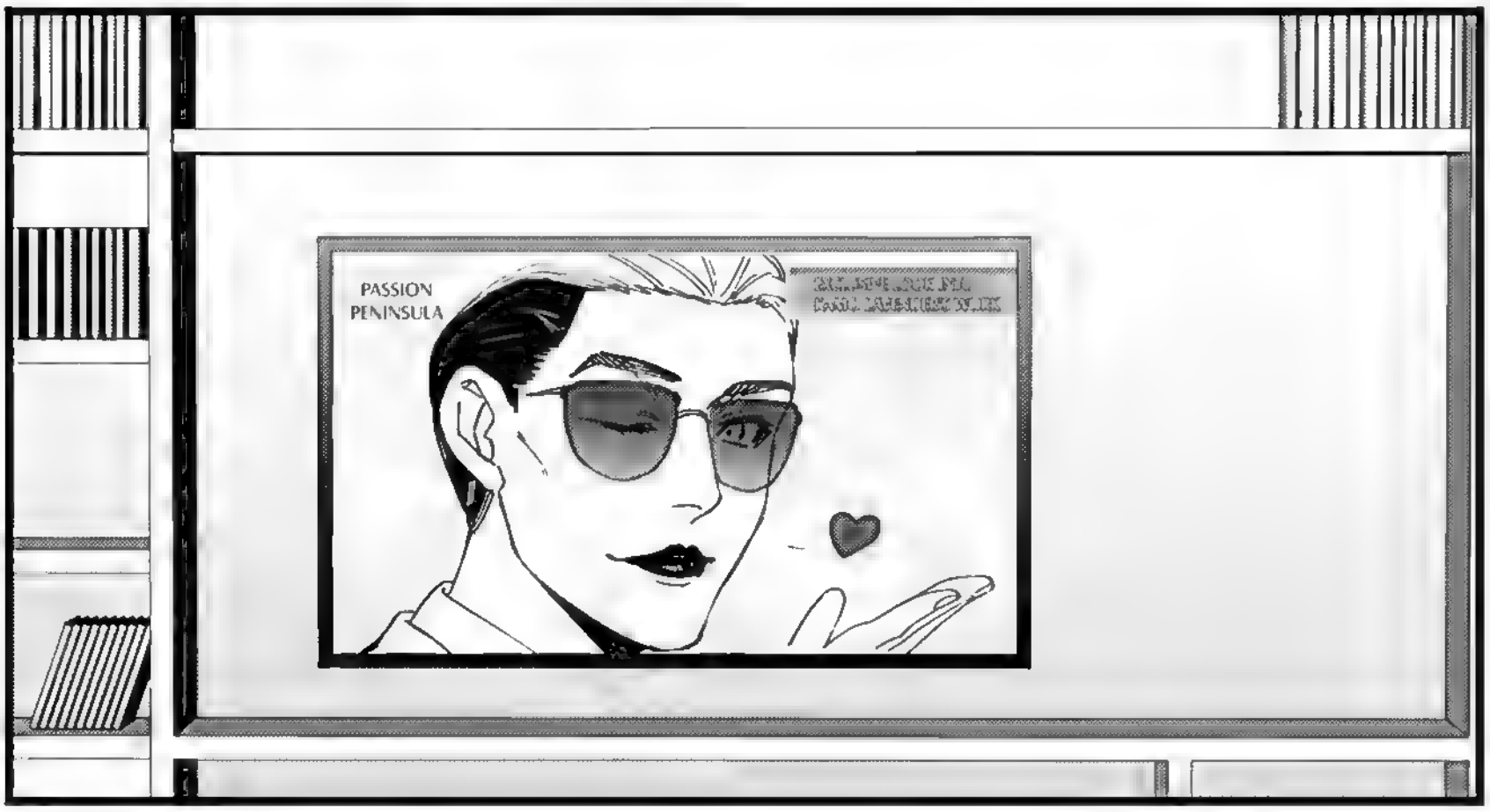
I EXPECTED AS MUCH OF KAMO ONEE.

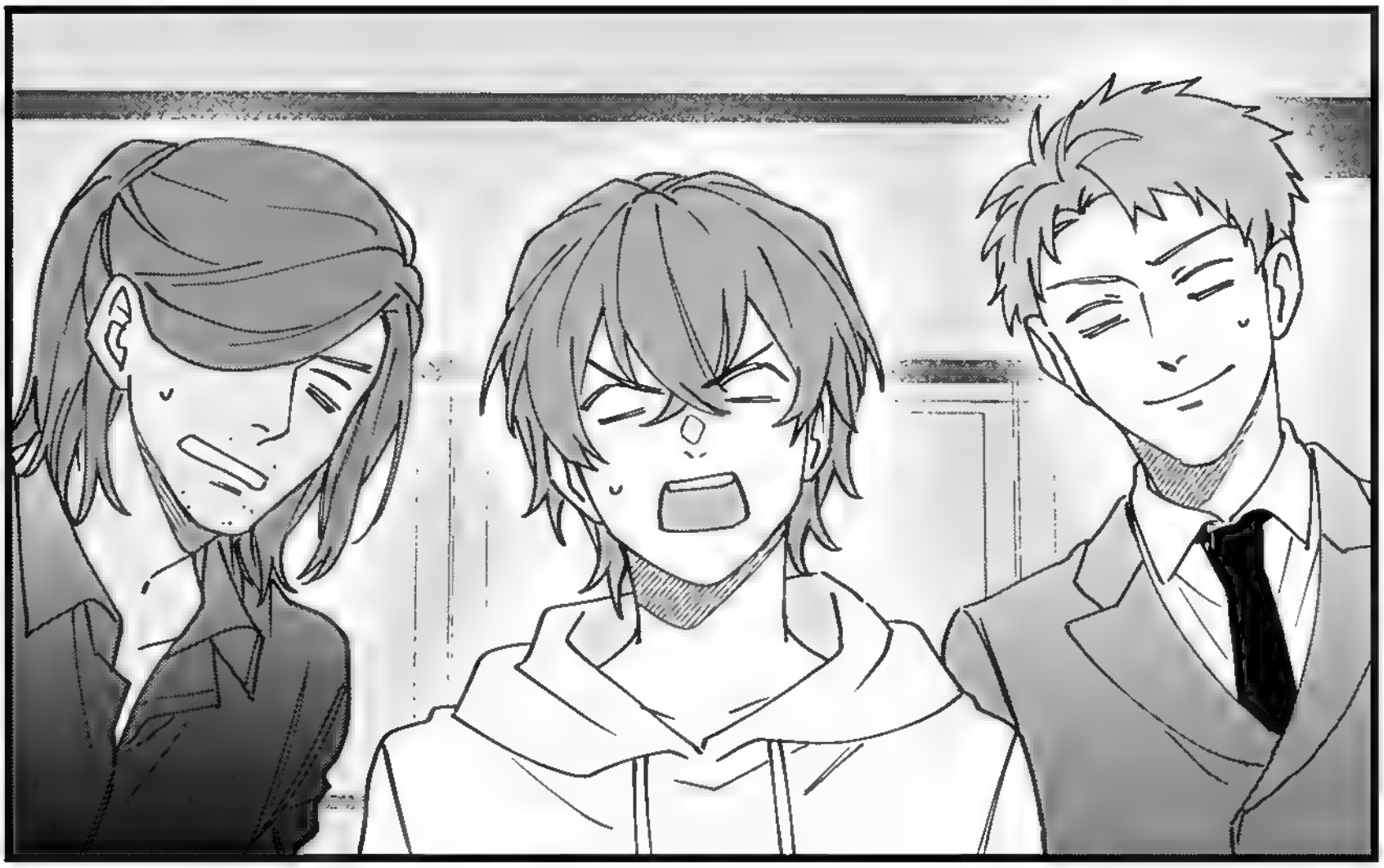
PAPA, WELCOME HOME!

KER-CHAK

HE'S SUCH A UNIQUE INDIVID-UAL...

I'M HOME, MY ANGELS.


PASSION
PENINSULA



IT IS A BIT PROVOC-ATIVE...

IS IT REALLY OKAY TO SHOW THAT ON PUBLIC BROADCASTING?

WHAT DID YOU BRING, MIROKU?

ANYWAY, I'VE NEVER BEEN TO A GUYS' NIGHT LIKE THIS BEFORE!

SO I BROUGHT ONE THAT YOU MENTIONED LIKING BEFORE, YOICHI!

MY DAD SAID I COULD BRING HIS FAVORITE ALCOHOL.

I MADE HORS D'OEUVRES TO BRING.

AND THERE'S HOMEMADE CURRY!

THIS IS A GIFT FROM SOMEONE ELSE, BUT I BROUGHT HIGH QUALITY MEAT TO GRILL.

OBVIOUSLY I DIDN'T HAVE A TANDOOR AT HOME TO BAKE IT IN, SO A FRIEND MADE THE NAAN.

I BROUGHT TANDOORI CHICKEN TOO.

YOU MADE CURRY, SHIJU? AND THERE'S EVEN NAAN!

WAS YOUR FRIEND... A *FEMALE* FRIEND?

NO, HE'S A GUY!

DON'T TELL ME...

THIS REMINDS ME OF BACK WHEN WE FIRST MET.

YOU WERE CHUBBY, MIROKU.

AND I WAS UNEMPLOYED.

HUH? I THOUGHT YOU HAD ONE OF THOSE WILD SIDE JOBS...?

JUST WHAT ARE YOU IMAGINING?!

...

BA-DUMP

IN ANY CASE, LET'S CONTINUE TO SET TIME ASIDE TO TALK LIKE THIS.

GRIN

YOU CAN TELL US IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND, OKAY?

WELL, IF YOU INSIST...

WHAT IS?

?

...IT'S REACHING LETHAL LEVELS.

I'M SURE THIS WORLD IS OVERFLOWING WITH MEN WHO WANT TO LOCK HER UP IN A CAGE TO KEEP HER SMILES ALL TO THEMSELVES!

SHE'S SUCH A PERFECT ANGEL THAT I ALMOST WONDER IF SHE'S NOT A DEMON IN DISGUISE!

FUMI'S CUTENESS!

SORRY, MIROKU, BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

WHILE MIROKU AND THE OTHERS GOT DRUNK...

IN A ROOM AT THE DORM FOR KISARAGI AGENCY EMPLOYEES...

FUMI, NINA, MIHACHI, AND MAKI...

WERE HAVING A GIRLS' NIGHT IN A DIFFERENT ROOM.

HUH?!

FUMI, HOW HAVE THINGS BEEN WITH MIROKU?

I-I'M MORE FOCUSED ON WORK THAN ROMANCE AT THE MOMENT.

YOU SAY THAT, BUT YOU TWO HAVE ALREADY KISSED, RIGHT?

...

SMIRK

SMIRK

NOT PROPERLY! IT WAS JUST ON THE FOREHEAD!

I'M FOCUSING ON WORK TOO. SHIJU AND I AREN'T LIKE THAT.

NINA, AREN'T THINGS GOING BETTER ON YOUR END?!

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH US?

NO ONE MENTIONED SHIJU.

CHEER

FWAP

NO! BESIDES, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEING CONSTANTLY HIT ON, MIHACH!!

MM

LEAN

AND I KNOW THAT YOU TWO HAVE BEEN MEETING UP ALONE FOR A LONG TIME!

YOICHI EVEN HIT ON YOU WHEN WE WERE ON THE ISLAND!

?!

M-ME?!

FLINCH

WHY ARE YOU UPSET WHEN HE'S THE FIRST IDOL YOU EVER HAD A CRUSH ON?

CUT IT OUT!!

I-I LIVE FOR MY CAREER, YOU KNOW! I DON'T NEED A RELATIONSHIP!

ARE YOU STRINGING HIM ALONG TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE TIME YOU DEVOTED TO CHASING AFTER HIM WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER?

MIHACHI, I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD MAKE YOICHI WAIT TOO LONG.

WHA...?!

I JUST FELT LIKE WEARING THEM!

YEAH, WELL, DIDN'T SHIJU BUY YOU THE CLOTHES THAT YOU'RE WEARING TODAY?

WAAAAAH!

HNNNGH

AH, NO WONDER YOU LIKE THAT OUTFIT SO MUCH.

FUMI, YOU CAN'T SAY THAT WHEN YOUR NECKLACE IS–

YOU GIRLS ARE ACTING SO CHILDISH!

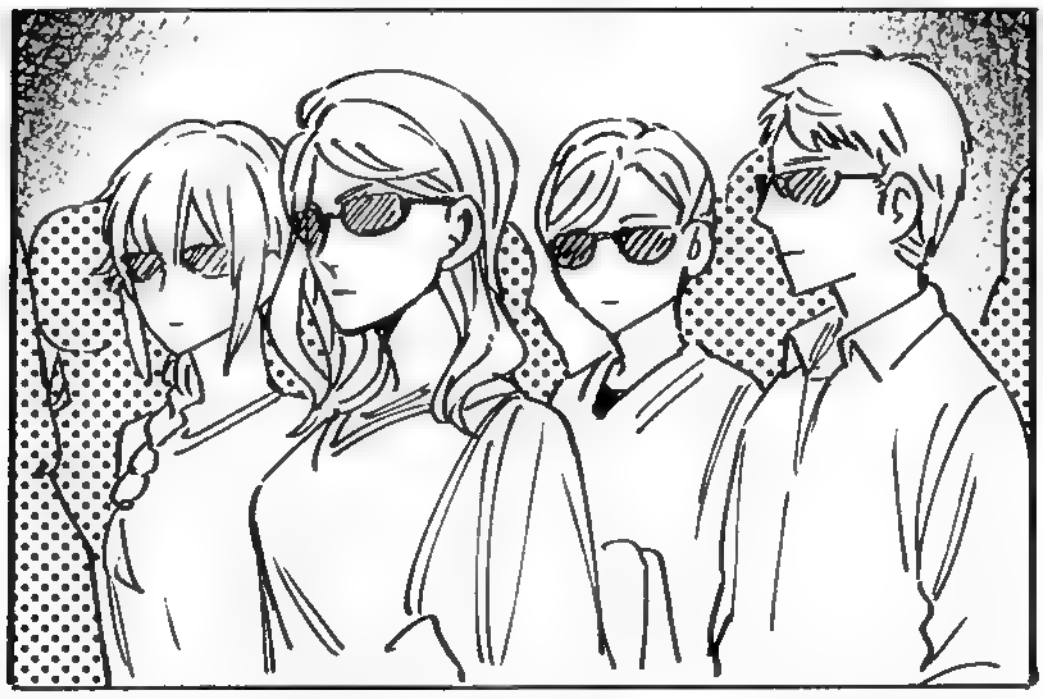
HURRY UP AND GET MARRIED, ALL OF YOU!

BAM

ACHOO
WHY CAN'T THE THREE OF US STOP SNEEZING?
IS IT YOUR TURN NOW, YOICHI?
HAVE WE ALL CAUGHT COLDS?

YUICHAN_*344LOVER** @yui0603_344

A GROUP OF WEIRDOS WEARING SUNGLASSES AT MIYOSHI'S MERCH BOOTH.



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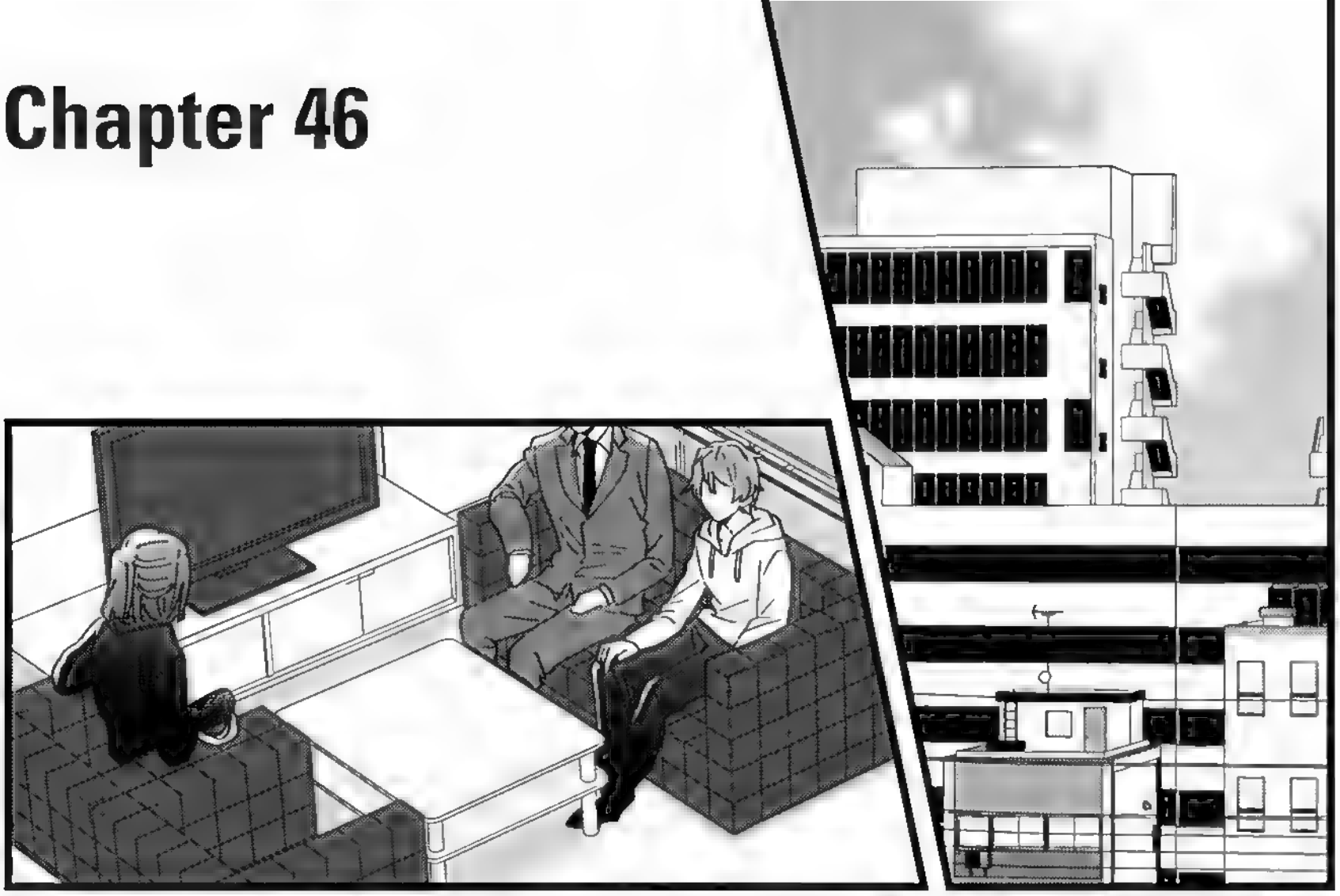
◆ THE OSAKIS WERE A HOT TOPIC ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

OSSAN
IDOL

Chapter 46



YEP!

IT'S AN APP WHERE YOU CAN POST SHORT VIDEOS, RIGHT?

DIP DUCK? I'VE HEARD THE NAME BEFORE.

POSTING ON SOCIAL MEDIA IS AN ABSOLUTE MUST WHEN PROMOTING ANYTHING.

MAYBE SO, BUT...

WE MADE AN OFFICIAL ACCOUNT FOR THE AGENCY, SO PLEASE TAKE SOME INTERESTING VIDEOS.

WHAT?!

HMM...

SHOULD WE USE MIYOSHI'S SONGS?

...ASKING US TO MAKE INTEREST-ING VIDEOS ON SHORT NOTICE IS KIND OF DIFFICULT.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS DANCE A LITTLE! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE EDITING!

THE APP POSTS OFFICIAL SONGS, HUH?

THAT IS ONE WAY OF DOING THINGS, BUT WHY DON'T WE TRY COMING UP WITH DANCES TO THE SONGS DIP DUCK'S OFFI-CIAL ACCOUNT POSTS?

THE VIDEOS ARE ONLY ONE MINUTE LONG, SO I DON'T THINK YOU'LL NEED TO PRACTICE MUCH.

I DON'T MIND AS LONG AS WE'RE DOING IT AS PART OF OUR WORK AS IDOLS.

I'LL DO IT FOR WORK TOO, BUT IF MIROKU'S NOT INTO IT... OH, I KNOW!

BUT THAT APP IS POPULAR WITH MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLERS, RIGHT? IT'S KIND OF EMBARRASSING.

?

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

I BROUGHT JUST THE RIGHT STUFF FOR THIS.

WHAT IS IT?

BA-BAM

TA-DA!

DID YOU ACTUALLY USE THESE?

YEP. I WAS GOING TO TAKE THEM TO THE SECONDHAND SHOP AFTER THIS, BUT WE CAN USE THEM.

I'VE HAD THEM SINCE I WAS IN SCHOOL.

YEAH. I FOUND THEM WHILE CLEANING OUT MY ROOM.

TRACKSUIT JACKETS AND SUNGLASSES?

YEAH!

IT WON'T BE AS EMBARRASSING IF YOU WEAR THEM WITH A MASK, RIGHT?

UH, THAT'LL MAKE YOU LOOK SO SUSPICIOUS.

SHIJU, WHY ARE YOU SO INTO THIS IDEA?

THAT'S TRUE!

YOU NEVER KNOW, RIGHT? YOU MIGHT AS WELL TRY THEM ON.

...

BA-BAM

WE DEFINITELY LOOK LIKE WEIRDOS.

NAH...

IF YOU'RE GOING TO HIDE YOUR IDENTITIES, WHY DON'T YOU GO WITH THIS SONG?

AND NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO TELL WHO WE ARE.

WELL, AT LEAST THEY'RE EASY TO MOVE IN!

YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT?!

ISOBE FITS RIGHT IN.

CHATTER

CHATTER

IT WAS POSTED BY THE APP'S OFFICIAL ACCOUNT, AND ALL THE USERS ARE FAMILIAR WITH IT.

SINCE WE WENT AHEAD AND GOT CHANGED, WE SHOULD AT LEAST GET SOME DANCE PRACTICE IN WHILE WE'RE AT IT!

YEAH!

WE'RE GOING TO BE POSTING IT ON MIYOSHI'S ACCOUNT, THOUGH.

ISOBE DIDN'T BOTHER TELLING THEM.

PLEASE STOP IT!

WHAT IF WE BECOME SUPER POPULAR AS A MYSTERIOUS THREESOME THE WAY MIROKU DID AS THE WHITE PRINCE?

THAT NICKNAME IS SO NOSTAL-GIC!

IT SEEMS YOU'VE PUT A LOT OF EFFORT INTO YOUR WORK LATELY.

WHILE I WAS AWAY LOOKING FOR TALENT OVERSEAS.

I HEARD THAT YOU'VE MADE A MESS OF SHINEEZ...

...

PRESIDENT OF SHINEEZ
TERUMI TERUI

SIR, YOUR WAYS OF DOING THINGS ARE TOO LAIDBACK.

FOR TENKA TO REACH EVEN GREATER HEIGHTS!

WHAT YOU'RE DOING ISN'T ENOUGH...

I'D LOVE TO BE ABLE TO SAY "WELL, IF YOU SAY SO," BUT...

?

IS THAT SO?

!

...I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO TELL EVERY SINGLE TV STATION THAT YOUR BOSS HAD BEEN REPLACED.

I HAD A LOT OF HOPE FOR YOU SINCE YOU ROSE FROM BEING A MANAGER TO BEING VICE-PRESIDENT IN SUCH LITTLE TIME.

THAT... I HAD TO DO THAT IN ORDER TO MAKE TENKA MORE POPULAR!

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR EXCUSES.

FWAP

WILL DEPEND ON WHAT YOU DO FROM HERE ON OUT.

WHETHER OR NOT YOU GET TO STAY IN THAT POSITION...

...!

CLENCH

SHUT

IS MY CAREER OVER?

STAGGER

HE HASN'T FIRED ME YET.

NO, NOT YET.

MY GOAL...

IS TO REGAIN THE SPARKLE I SAW THAT DAY AT ALPHA'S CONCERT.

AND I'LL DO ANYTHING IT TAKES TO GET IT BACK.

THIS ISN'T IT!

I'M NOT OKAY WITH JUST ANY TYPE OF WATER!

I ASKED YOU TO GET ME WATER!

CRASH

DON'T YOU GET THAT I'M NOT NORMAL LIKE YOU?

I'M AN IDOL.

HOW DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT?

WHATEVER. I DON'T NEED A USELESS MANAGER.

...

LET'S GO.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

REACH

YOU'RE...!

!

HE'S BEEN ON EDGE LATELY.

AND HE'S REALLY PICKY ABOUT THE WATER HE DRINKS.

SORRY.

SO PLEASE TRY AND FORGIVE HIM.

DON'T WORK TOO HARD!

BYE.

BACK THEN...

I SAW TRUE BRILLIANCE.

PEOPLE ARE CHOSEN...

BUT BACK THEN, I REALIZED THAT...

AND WORK HARD TO BECOME IDOLS.

ONLY TRUE IDOLS SHINE BRIGHTLY.

MEETING THEM...

MADE ME REALIZE THAT I EXIST...

TO FIND THE "TRUE IDOLS"...

AND SUPPORT THEM.

THE LIGHT FROM THEM SHONE BRILLIANTLY.

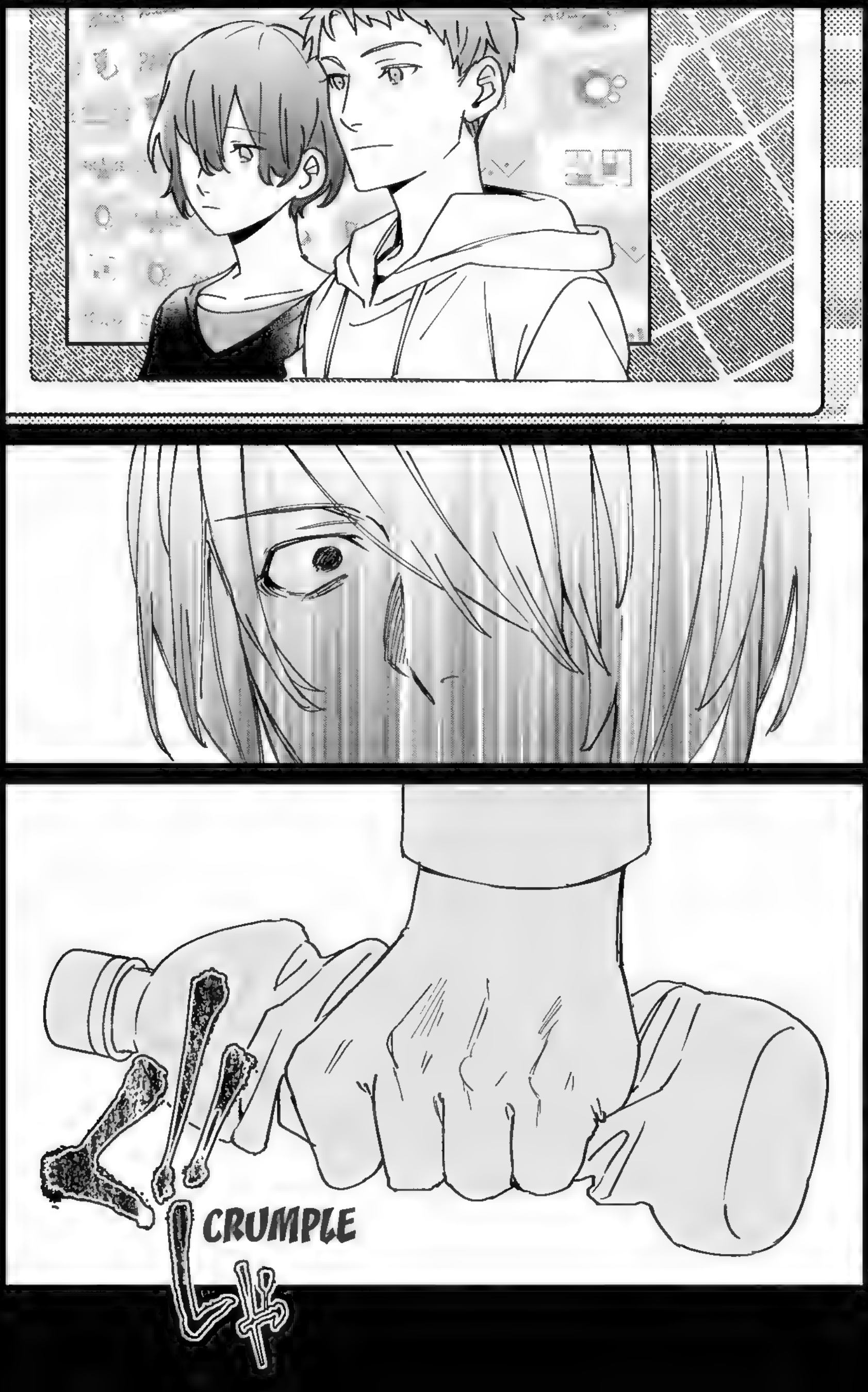
IT WAS A LIGHT THAT GUIDES US...

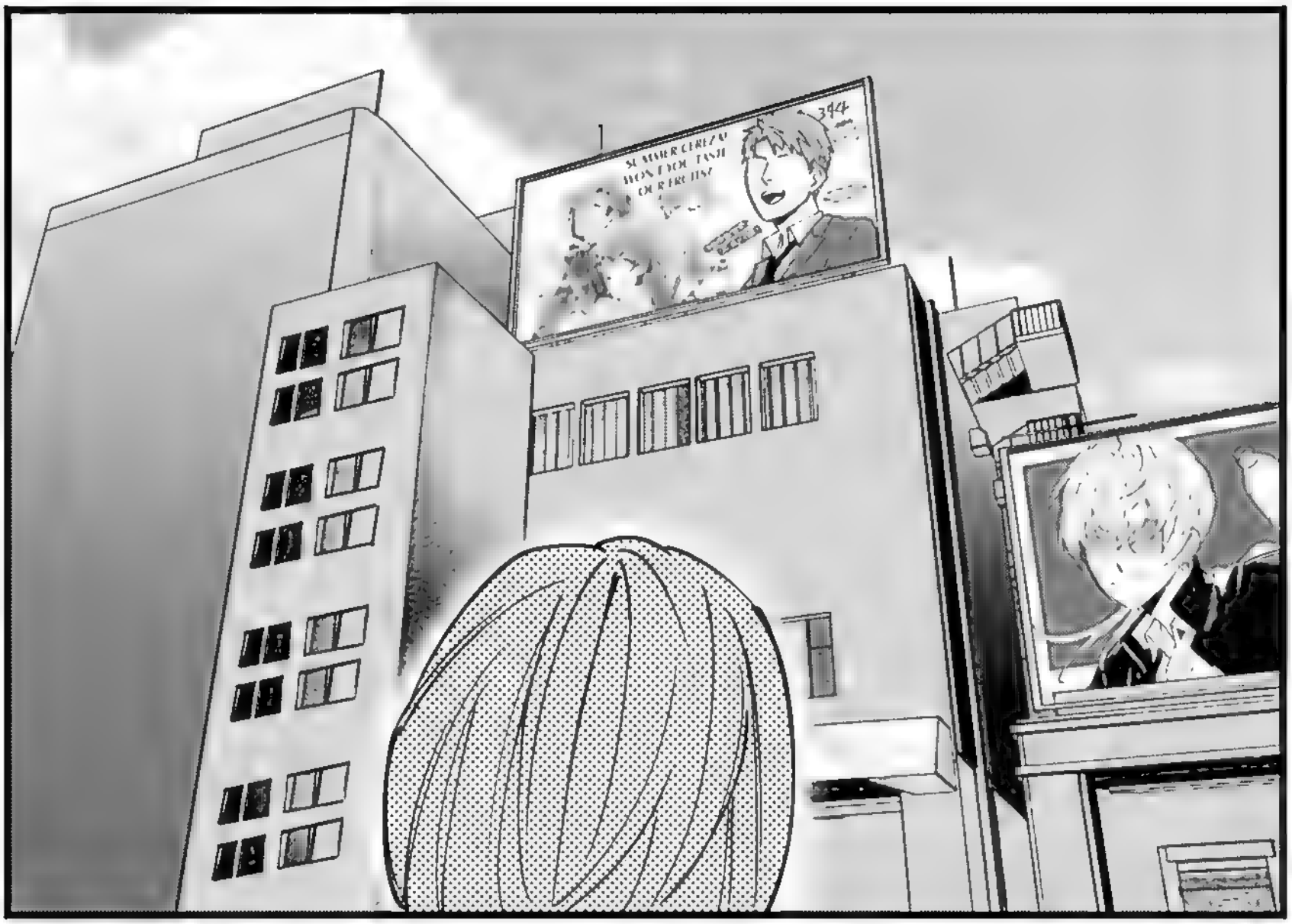
THE ALPHA DUO WILL BE RETIRING.

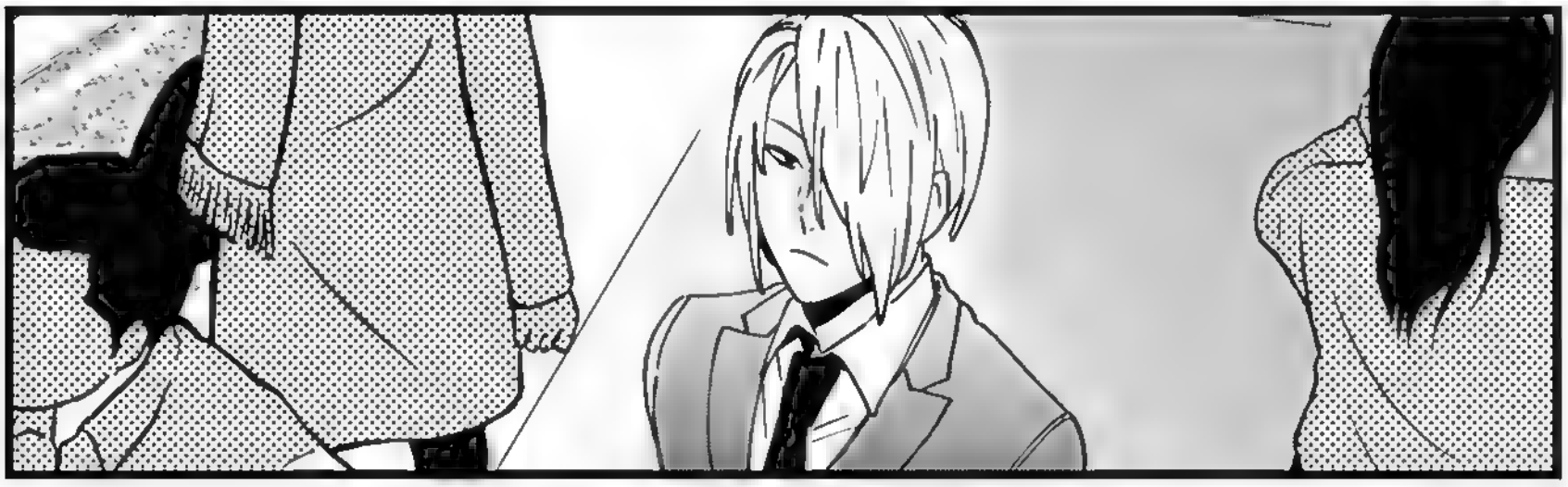
...OR SO THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN.

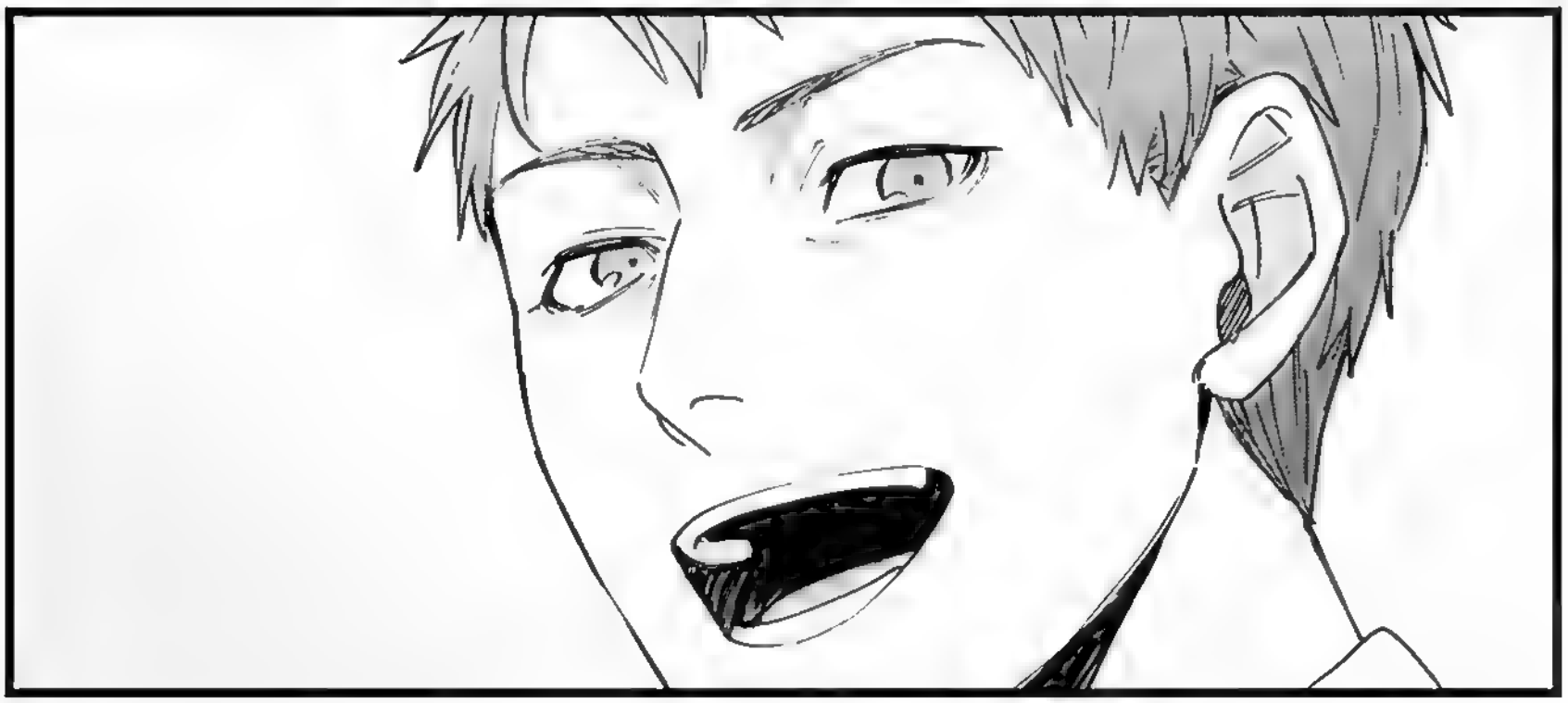
THEY JUST FINISHED A CONCERT A FEW DAYS AGO.

FANS SUGGEST THAT THE DUO PLANNED FOR IT TO BE THEIR LAST CONCERT.


CRUMPLE







VICE-PRESIDENT!

KIRA, I NEED TO TALK WITH YOU.

TENKA GREEN

KER-CHAK

I'VE MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOU TO BUMP INTO MIYOSHI DURING THE TV SPECIAL TOMORROW.

HEY, VP...

WE'LL HAVE TO BE MORE DIRECT THIS TIME.

...DOING WHAT?

TWITCH

LET'S STOP DOING THIS.

WE HEARD EVERYTHING FROM THE PRESIDENT.

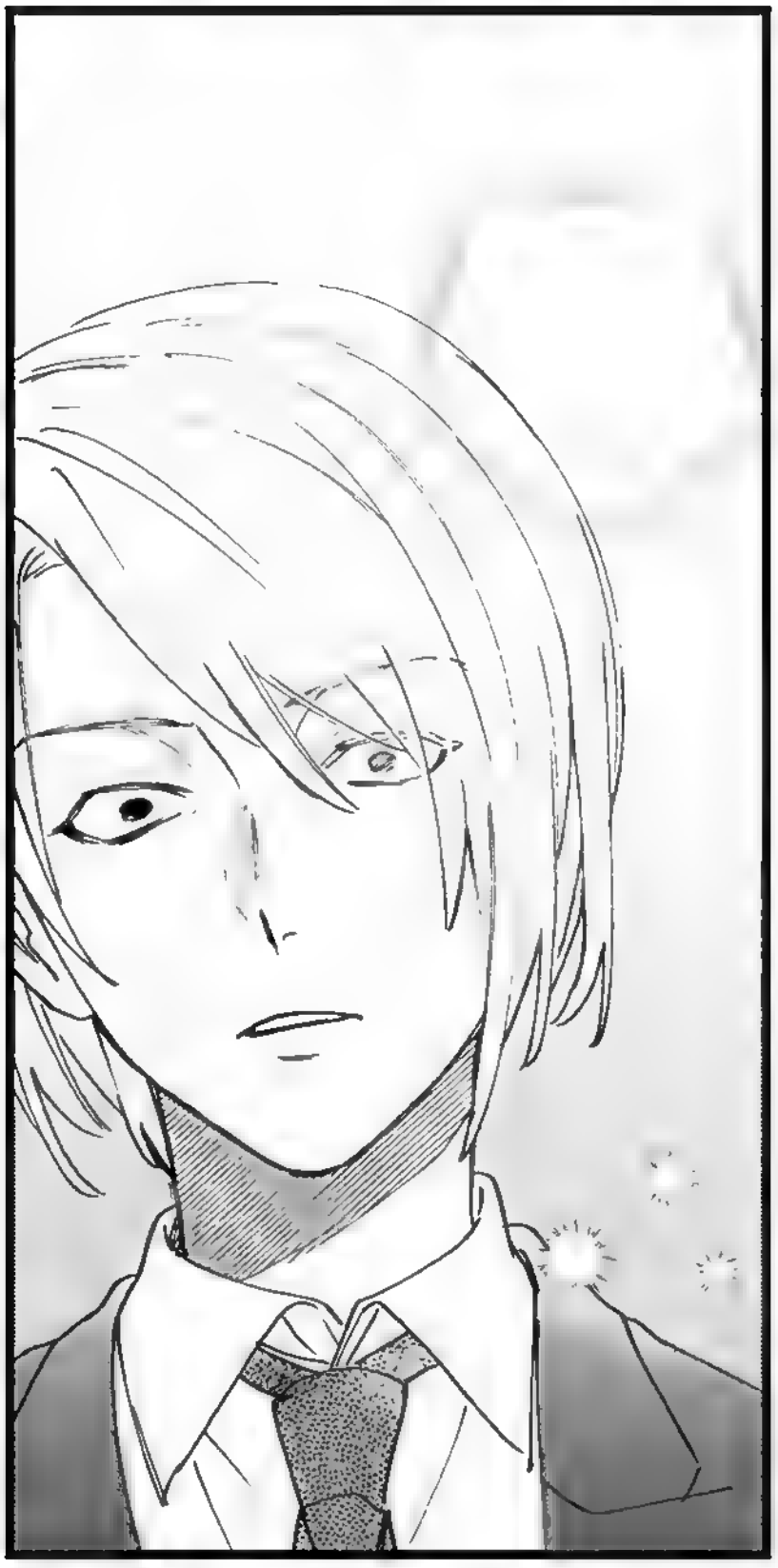
THEY'RE ALL NICE GUYS.

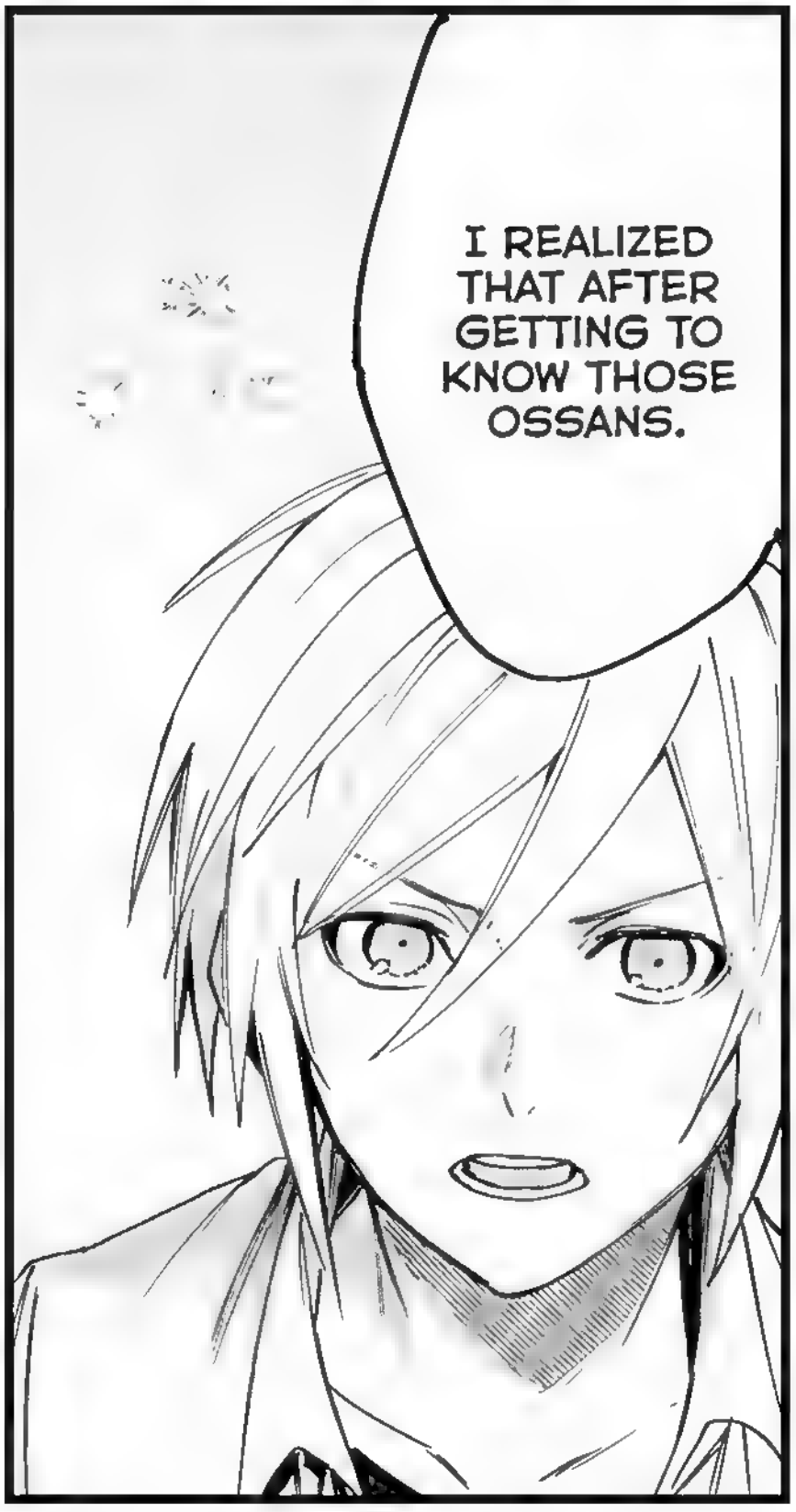
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT BEEF YOU HAVE WITH MIYOSHI, BUT WE'RE SICK OF GETTING CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE.

MINERAL WATER

MINERAL WATER

ISN'T THIS WHAT BEING AN IDOL IS ALL ABOUT?
WE MAY BE YOUNG AND INEXPERI-ENCED...
BUT WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO SHINE!
ZZZ




I REALIZED THAT AFTER GETTING TO KNOW THOSE OSSANS.

BUT WE BELIEVE WE CAN SHINE IN A WAY THAT'S UNIQUE TO US.

IT MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM THE SPARKLE YOU'RE AFTER...

OH...

DUMMY!

THEN YOU DON'T NEED ME.

WE'RE STILL INEXPERIENCED! THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE NEED YOU!

YOU'D BETTER BE THERE WATCHING US FROM THE FRONT ROW!

TENKA'S GOING TO BE THE GREATEST IDOL GROUP UNDER THE SUN.

SHINEEZ AND THOSE OSSANS DON'T MATTER!

MAKE IT A VIP SEAT.

A FEW DAYS LATER

WHAT'RE THOSE OSSANS DOING?

LOOK AT THIS GROUP OF THREE GUYS DANCING TO TENKA'S SONG.

■ LET'S TRY DANCING! TENKA'S "DANCING!!!" / ANONYMOUS

THAT'S DEFINITELY SHIJU AND THE PRINCE IT'S MIYOSHI, RIGHT?
ARE THEY GONNA DO A COLLAB WITH TENKA?
IT'S TOTALLY MIYOSHI LOL
THERE ARE RUMORS THAT THEY'R
THEY'RE NOT EVEN TRYING TO HIDE THEIR IDENTITIES...
MIYOSHI!!!!!!!!

THAT'S DEFINITELY SHIJU AND THE PRINCE
IT'S MIYOSHI, RIGHT?
ARE THEY GONNA DO A COLLAB WITH TENKA?
IT'S TOTALLY MIYOSHI LOL

◆ NATURALLY, THEIR IDENTITIES WERE REVEALED IN THE COMMENT SECTION.

OSSAN
IDOL

Chapter 47

YOU LOOK LESS FLAM-BOYANT THAN YOU USUALLY DO.

WHY DID YOU CALL US HERE TODAY, MR. LAVENDER?

...

I CALLED YOU HERE TODAY...

BECAUSE I HAVE EXTRAORDI-NARY NEWS.

!

CLAMOR

MIYOSHI WILL BE HOLDING A CONCERT AT THE BUDOKAN.

THE BU-DOKAN?

ARE YOU SERI-OUS?

MR. LAVENDER HAS ALREADY BOOKED THE VENUE AND TALKED WITH SPONSORS AND TV STATIONS!

WOW!

THIS IS REALLY SUDDEN. AS ALWAYS, HE PUT THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE...

...

RIGHT, MIROKU?

OKAY! I'LL WORK ON VOICE TRAINING, SINCE THAT'S MY WEAK POINT.

Y-YEAH.

WE'D BETTER GIVE THE CONCERT OUR ALL!

WHAT A HUGE ACCOM-PLISHMENT!

UH...

I'M JUST SURPRISED.

YOU DON'T SEEM TOO HAPPY.

WHAT'S WRONG, MIROKU?

TRENDING | WEATHER | CONCERTS | SPORTS | POLITICS

MIYOSHI'S FIRST CONCERT AT THE BUDOKAN

TENKA'S KIRA WILL BE STARRING IN A THEATER PRODUCTION

POPULAR SINGER/SONGWRITER HIROKI SHEDS TEARS IN NEW PV

KOTORI YANO & SATOKO KYOMURA PROCEED TO FINALS IN BADMINTON DOUBLES

MIROKU, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

HMM?

WHAT IS IT, FUMI?

MIROKU, UM...

YOU DON'T LOOK TOO GOOD...

WOBBLE

SLIDE

STUMBLE

MIROKU?!

MIROKU!

303

FUMI.

GOOD WORK TODAY.

IS MIROKU OKAY?

HE'S FATIGUED FROM A LACK OF SLEEP.

BUT HIS TESTS CAME BACK OKAY...

SO HE CAN BE RELEASED ONCE HE CAN MOVE.

THIS ISN'T YOUR FAULT, FUMI.

I'M RESPONSIBLE TOO.

SIR... BUT...

IT'S A MANAGER'S JOB TO OVERSEE THEIR IDOL'S HEALTH.

MIROKU HAS BEEN ACTING OFF FOR A WHILE.

I NOTICED, BUT DIDN'T MENTION IT.

I'M JUST AS RESPON-SIBLE.

SHIJU...

!

MIROKU!

CLATTER

MIROKU, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

...

MIROKU...

CAN YOU... NOT SPEAK?

MIROKU, WILL YOU BE

I'LL BE STAYING AT THE CO
DORMS FOR A WHILE.

...

HE'S RIGHT. IT IS *YOUR* FAMILY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.

I DON'T THINK YOU CAN HIDE THIS FROM YOUR FAMILY.

THE DOCTOR SAID THAT THIS SORT OF THING IS CAUSED BY STRESS...

TAP TAP

I'm fine
Don't cry

URK...

YOU'RE MAKING HER CRY EVEN MORE!

MIROKU... I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU MADE MY CUTE NIECE CRY.

FOR START-ERS...

TAKE THE NEXT THREE DAYS OFF.

CLENCH

...

SIR, THAT'S...!

HAH? WHAT'RE YOU...?

I'M SAYING THIS AS YOUR CEO.

...

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

SO TAKE THE TIME OFF. I'M NOT GOING TO FORCE YOU TO WORK IN THIS STATE.

I KNOW THE BUDOKAN CONCERT IS COMING UP.

BUT I THINK WE'VE ALL BEEN WORKING TOO MUCH.

YES. I'M THE CEO...

SO I CAN DECIDE WHAT I WANT.

...

...

LOWER

I THOUGHT LONG AND HARD ABOUT WHAT TO DO, BUT...

I'M KIND OF SURPRISED YOU TOLD ME.

MIROKU DIDN'T WANT US TO TELL HIS FAMILY.

THESE ARE JUST MY OWN THOUGHTS.

GOOD GRIEF.

IT'S JUST...

MIROKU WAS THE ONE...

WHO PULLED ME INTO THE LIGHT WHEN I WAS AT MY LOWEST.

I TEASED HIM FOR BEING POPULAR AND TOO CHARMING...

BUT I'VE SEEN HOW HE WORKS TWICE AS HARD AS ANYONE ELSE.

HE'S ALWAYS SMILING.

DESPITE THAT...

DAMMIT.

...

THAT HE WAS PUSHING HIMSELF TOO HARD.

I SHOULD HAVE NOTICED...

BUT... SHIT.

INHALE

YOICHI AND I ARE HIS GROUP MEMBERS, SO WE SHOULD HAVE NOTICED.

WHAM

THIS IS FOR MY BROTHER!

GWAH?!

WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT US, HIS FAMILY MEMBERS, WHO COULDN'T HELP HIM BACK WHEN HE WAS A SHUT-IN?

NONE OF US REALIZED...

HOW MUCH MIROKU WAS ENDURING!

HE'S THE ONE WHO'S MOST UPSET ABOUT THE FACT THAT HE CAN'T SPEAK!

!

...

I'M NOT CRYING.

DON'T GET ALL DEPRESSED AND START CRYING BEFORE HE DOES, DUMMY!

HMPH...

SORRY.

TH-THAT'S TRUE.

REACH

AND THIS IS FOR ME!

GRAB

!

WORK HARD, DUMMY!

FWAP

TAP TAP TAP

...HUH?

I KNEW I DEFINITELY NEEDED TO TELL HIS FAMILY.

THANKS FOR FOLLOWING UP ON THINGS.

...

BUT THEY CALMED DOWN ONCE THEY REALIZED WE NEEDED TO PRIORITIZE MIROKU'S FEELINGS.

MY PARENTS AND NINA PAN-ICKED...

YOU'RE WELCOME.

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAS HAPPENED.

ALSO...

MIROKU WASN'T IN CONTACT WITH OTHERS FOR A LONG TIME.

THAT'S TRUE.

I THINK I WAS REALLY FORCING HIM TO PUSH HIMSELF.

SO...

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH MY LITTLE BROTHER?

NOTH-ING.

I'LL JUST DO WHAT I CAN.

YOU'RE SO COLD.

...

IT'S BECAUSE I'M THE CEO.

LIAR.

YOU'RE THE KINDEST PERSON I KNOW.

DON'T BLAME YOURSELF OVER THIS ANYMORE.

...

DON'T.

THAT'S NOT HOW YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DRINK THIS ALCOHOL, YOU KNOW.

...

I PROMISED MYSELF I'D NEVER MAKE...

THIS MISTAKE AGAIN, BUT I DID.

YOU THINK SO?

I DON'T THINK WHAT YOU OR I COULD HAVE SAID WOULD HAVE MATTERED.

MIROKU CHOSE THIS PATH.

BESIDES...

...MIROKU IS AN ADULT.

HE'S MOVED FORWARD AND IS SHINING ON HIS OWN.

EVEN IF YOUR BUDOKAN CONCERT ISN'T A SUCCESS...

I BELIEVE YOU'LL CHALLENGE YOURSELVES AGAIN.

YOU BELIEVE...?

THAT'S RIGHT.

AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO TOLD ME TO TRUST HIM MORE?

I ALWAYS HAVE.

I HAVE FAITH IN YOU.

REACH

!

OF COURSE–

TRUST IN ME.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO HAVE FAITH IN ME.

◆ AT THE SAME TIME, KAMO LAVENDER WAS...

OSSAN
IDOL

Final Chapter

HE STILL CAN'T TALK...

AND HE WON'T LEAVE HIS ROOM.

HOW IS MIROKU?

IT'S FINE AS LONG AS HE'S EATING.

IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S EATING THE FOOD I LEAVE FOR HIM, BUT...

MIROKU WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE HIS GLORIOUS RETURN IF YOU'RE DOWN IN THE DUMPS.

DON'T BLAME YOURSELF.

I NEED TO TAKE BETTER CARE OF HIM...

GLUM

I'M SORRY.

...

LET JUST TRUST HIM...

AND DO WHAT WE CAN BY OURSELVES.

CLENCH

SOMETHING THAT...

ONLY I CAN DO...!

FUMI

I LEFT SOME FOOD
PLEASE MESSAGE ME
ANYTHING YOU WANT.

I NEED TO TAKE A SHOWER.
RUSTLE
FREEZE

FWAP

!

PANT

!?

IT WAS JUST...

A DREAM.

PANT

!?

!

RUSTLE

OF THE TIME IN MY LIFE...

I'LL LEAVE YOUR LUNCH HE

FUMI

I STILL DREAM...

WHEN I HATED EVERYTHING.

I SPENT EVERY DAY...

ALONE IN A DARK ROOM ON THE INTERNET.

I THOUGHT I'D NEVER GO OUTSIDE AGAIN...

LET'S TRY DANCING

THIS WAS THE START OF EVERYTHING.

COMMENTS

I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER NOW

I'M THE ONE...

WHO FELT BETTER.

MY FAMILY SUPPORTED ME...

AND I HAD FRIENDS I COULD RELY ON.

THAT'S WHY I WAS ABLE TO COME THIS FAR.

AND...

MORE THAN ANYTHING...

I HAD YOU. YOU ALWAYS...

WATCHED OVER ME.

MIROKU...

SQUEEZE

MIROKU...

MIROKU!

IT'S GOOD SEEING YOU AGAIN.

WERE YOU ABLE TO GET LOTS OF REST?

I BET YOU'RE FEELING BETTER SINCE YOU GOT TO EAT FUMI'S HOMEMADE LUNCHES EVERY DAY.

!!

STILL...

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU STILL CAN'T SPEAK.

YOU DIDN'T KNOW SHE'D BEEN MAKING THEM HERSELF?

I SHOULD HAVE EATEN THEM WITH MORE CARE!

SHOCK

AH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

GLUM

BUT WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

THERE ARE ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT UNTIL THE BUDOKAN CONCERT.

HMM...

I'D LIKE A METHOD THAT PUTS AS LITTLE OF A STRAIN ON MIROKU AS POSSIBLE.

ISN'T VOICE REHABIL-ITATION THE ONLY OPTION?

LEAVE IT TO ME!

WHEN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE...

BA-BAM

M-MR. LAVENDER!

WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?

I THINK I'VE GOT THE GIST OF THINGS.

I LEARNED THIS TECHNIQUE AT A CERTAIN INSTITUTION.

I'D LOVE TO USE IT ON MIROKU! ♡

UM, MR. LAVEN-DER...

WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU PLANNING?

SHIIIINE

5 YEN

HYPNOTISM. ♡

HOW THINGS USED TO BE!

REMEMBER...

まぁ—

—h HAAAAZY

5 YEN

I'M SURE IT WON'T WORK, EVEN ON MIROKU...

DAAAAAAAAZE

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

HUH? WHERE AM I...?

BLINK

YOU SPOKE!

...

MIROKU!

SLUMP

OLD GUYS?

WHO ARE THESE...

WOW! WHAT A PRETTY LADY!

PLEASE MARRY ME WHEN I'M OLDER!

FADE

OOPS, I MADE HIM GO TOO FAR BACK IN TIME.

HEY, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FIX THIS?!

PAT

THEN LET'S JUST REVERSE THE HYPNOTISM.

SLUMP

なあ…

H-HE'S TOO CUTE...!

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK! I'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF YOICHI AS A FATHER FIGURE OR THOUGHT OF SHIJU AS A WEIRDO WITH A SUSPICIOUS EMPLOYMENT HISTORY!

?!

FWSH

I'M AWAKE, BUT IT FEELS LIKE I'M DREAMING!

MIROKU, UM... HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

I-I SEE. I'M GLAD YOU'RE FEELING BETTER.

FUMI! HYPNOTISM IS AMAZING!

THAT "TALENT" OF YOURS IS DANGER-OUS.

I'M SO TALENTED, IT'S TERRIFYING.

20

19

10

5

...TEE-HEE. ♡

DON'T EVER DO IT AGAIN.

HEY!

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONCERT CONTINUED.

MIROKU WAS QUIET AT TIMES...

BUT MY UNCLE AND SHIJU DID A GOOD JOB COVERING FOR HIM.

THAT I CAN ONLY WATCH OVER THEM.

I DECIDED TO STOP FUSSING OVER THE FACT...!

DOING THE THINGS...

THAT ONLY I CAN DO.

FOR NOW, I WILL WORK HARD...

THE DAY OF THE BUDOKAN CONCERT

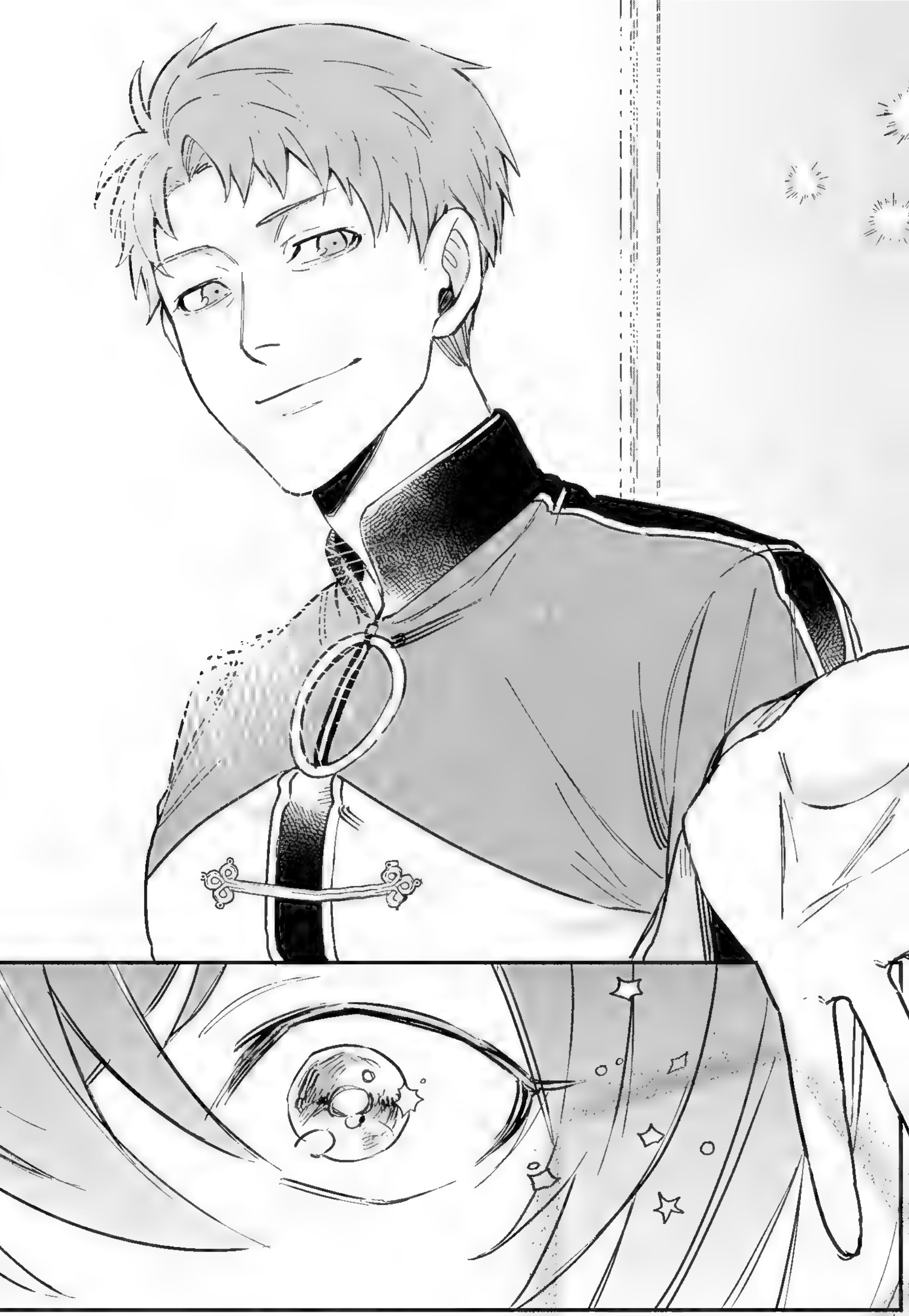
STAGE

I HAVE FAMILY THAT SUPPORTS ME.

I HAVE FRIENDS I CAN RELY ON.

AND I HAVE MANY, MANY FANS.

CHEEEER
I AM SO GRATEFUL.



LET'S GO!

Ossan Idol

AFTERWORD

THIS IS THE FINAL VOLUME!
WHEN I RECEIVED THE NEWS THAT MY DEBUT NOVEL *OSSAN IDOL* WOULD BE COMICALIZED, I THOUGHT, "IT'S REALLY HAPPENING? WILL IT BE OKAY?" I REMEMBER BEING EXTREMELY SURPRISED. ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THE CONTENT. (LOL)
IN THE LATTER HALF OF THE SERIES, I WRACKED MY BRAIN TO COME UP WITH ORIGINAL STORIES FOR THE MANGA AND HAD ILLUSTRATOR ICHIKA KINO CLEAN THEM UP FOR ME. HONESTLY, EVERY DAY WAS LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE.
I'M EXTREMELY THANKFUL TO ICHIKA FOR GRANTING A WISH I'VE HAD SINCE I WAS YOUNGER, WHICH WAS TO READ ONE OF MY OWN WORKS AS A MANGA.
I'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK MY EDITOR H., WHO COOPERATED WITH ME THROUGH THE END, Y., AND EVERYONE WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF THE SERIES. I'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK MY READERS FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART. THANK YOU! AND SINCE I HAVE THE CHANCE TO SAY IT, "ARIGATOGOZAI-MUSCLE!"

I'M SURE THE OSSANS WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE FUN, EXCITING LIVES TOGETHER. ALSO, I HOPE READERS COME AWAY FROM THIS SERIES HAVING LEARNED THAT LIFE CAN BE FUN NO MATTER WHAT AGE YOU ARE. PLEASE TAKE CARE UNTIL WE SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN!

MOCHIKO MOCHIDA

Afterword

Thank you so much for reading the comic version of Ossan Idol!

To be honest, I wasn't expecting to be able to illustrate so many volumes, so I was really grateful for the opportunity.

It's all thanks to the series' author Mochiko Mochida, my editor, H., everyone in the Editorial Department, and more than anything, thanks to the series' readers! Thank you so, so much!

Please continue to support my comics if you see them in the future.

Ichika Kino

Ossan Idol Vol. 8

Original Bonus Chapter by Author Mochiko Mochida

A Conversation Between High School Girls:

"Definitely Prince Miroku. His gaze and smile just drive me crazy!"

"You've really changed. You used to say that 36-year-olds are just ossans. By the way, I stan Yoichi because he's so mature and charming."

"I don't care what anyone else says, Shiju is the only one for me. But I'll accept objections."

"You'll accept them? Haha."

"They're all different, so they all have their good points."

"Yeah!"

Three high school girls chatter endlessly at a certain fast food chain on a Sunday evening. Of course, the subject of their discussion is the highly popular idol group Miyoshi. While talking about the idols' love lives, they began to sprinkle in their own delusions, as high schoolers are wont to do.

"I think the person Prince Miroku falls for will be his first love."

"His official profile says that he was a shut-in, after all."

"It must have taken a lot of courage for him to go from that to being an idol. Crap, I think I might cry…"

"What are you, his mother? But I get it. I think he'll fall for the kind of girl who's cute and makes him want to protect her, but she's actually strong-willed."

"Yeah. If he were to fall in love, I bet he'd be honest and straightforward and could use his lack of experience as a weapon."

"I feel like I'll get nosebleeds just by looking at pictures of him. Can you imagine what it must be like having to bear the full brunt of his charm at close range?"

The girls hold their smartphones, which naturally are set to have their favorite ossan idols as the backgrounds.

"I wonder if Yoichi is dating someone around his age…"

"I feel like some people would criticize him for saying it because he's an idol, but I really want to hear him admit that he's in love with someone."

"Don't you think it'd be cute if he was with the kind of girl who lives for her career instead of her relationship but blushes just from holding his hand?"

"Don't assume you know what he's like! But yeah… that would be cute."

"What if she's a totally normal woman who's been a fan of his since he started his idol career, but when they're together they act like middle schoolers?"

"I love the idea of them getting together with their fans!"

The girls are conspicuously excited in the already loud restaurant, their delusions starting to go on a rampage.

"Then what about Shiju?"

"I don't know if it's because he's a former host, but I get the feeling that he's slept around a lot already."

"As a Shiju stan, I feel like he's never had a lack of women in his life. But I also feel like he was never unsatisfied because he never felt like he needed them."

"Ohhh? I'm listening."

"I'm sure he messed around a lot and had relationships, so he's probably extremely experienced. But I think he'll meet her."

"Meet who?"

"A woman he can be himself around. The kind of woman he can cling to and say, 'I love you, so please love me in return!' Haha."

Watching the girl's performance, the other two girls turned bright red and got even more excited. After a while, the girls left while talking about how much they couldn't wait for Miyoshi's nationwide tour, and the restaurant became a little quieter.

In the seats behind the girls' table, separated by some potted plants, three men held their heads in silence as they released the breaths they had been holding for the longest time.

"That was so embarrassing…"

"Are high school girls secretly clairvoyants or something? Their guesses were spot-on."

"Mine was absolutely the most mortifying. Wasn't it, ossan?"

Yoichi was unable to say anything to a blushing Miroku as he leaked pheromones like no one's business. He simply responded with a groan as Shiju desperately withheld from rolling around on the floor to deal with his emotions. Still, Yoichi smiled gently and thought that it was nice to have been able to hear his fans' opinions, especially in regards to relationships, which were usually taboo for idols.

"I wonder if I'll be able to seduce my girlfriend with all my might after this."

"What are you talking about, Yoichi? I know you were already going all in on my sister."

"Of course I gave her my all, Miroku. That's why I want to take things even further."

"This ossan just casually said the craziest thing…"

"Oh, but those girls said that I can use my lack of experience as a weapon, so I'm going to try hard too!"

"Cut it out. Do you want to put our manager out of commission again?"

"Please go easy on her…"

Yoichi had warned Miroku about his pheromones multiple times already and it didn't seem like the younger man would be able to stop emitting them, so Yoichi was prepared to hand his niece over one day.

Just then, Shiju gave a strangled shout and held his head in his hands once more. "Do our fans really view me that way? Seriously?! It's so embarrassing!"

"Why? Did they hit a bull's-eye?"

"Cut him some slack, Miroku. Shiju may have had many affairs before, but it seems like he's in true love now."

"Stoooop!"

Miroku watched Shiju writhe in anguish and idly commented, "What is that, a new dance move?"

Yoichi stood and said, "We should get going soon." The group's atmosphere changed immediately. Miroku's charm infected all of his gestures, Yoichi exuded mature vibes while fixing his necktie, and Shiju languidly ran his fingers through his hair with the air of a dangerous man.

People all over Japan knew about Miyoshi. They gathered attention wherever they went and gained more fans by the day. The middle-aged idols of Miyoshi shone brighter and brighter, living proof that age doesn't matter when you commit to challenging yourself.

The story of them taking each other's outstretched hands that day will continue to make many people fall for them.

MIROKU, THIS IS THE FINAL VOLUME!

こそっ

WHISPER

SHIIIINE

なお

THANK YOU...

SO...

MUCH!

なお

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